25th July 1953]

SRI C. V. K. RAO :—" Are they Congress merchants? "

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" Does this not show that the merchant class generally are bad people and have no care for people's interests but are mindful only about their interests? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" There is a pronounced expression of affection on their part for money in this particular area."

DR. K. B. MENON :—" The ultimate sufferer is the consumer. Therefore, have the Government any scheme for compensating the consumer against any loss? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" It is not correct to think that the consumer has to pay for it. We have not included it in the price which the consumer has got to pay. We are trying to recoup the loss from persons who are responsible for this loss."

Government grant to Madras Institute of Technology.

* 1028 *Q.*—SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state the grant, if any, made by Government to the Madras Institute of Technology in 1951–52 and 1952–53?

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" No grant was given to the Institute either in 1951–52 or in 1952–53."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" In view of the fact that this is perhaps the only institution which gives post-graduate training in engineering will the Government consider the question of giving any subsidy or grant to the Institute? "

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" At an earlier stage, a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs had been granted to this institution by this Government. The question of giving a further recurring grant is under consideration."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" In view of the fact that this institution has made representations even recently about its inadequate financial position and its even having to close down if aid is not forthcoming and in view also of the fact that this is a very important Institute, will the Government give top priority to this consideration? "

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" The application is being considered."

Rural development firkas of Ongole taluk.

* 1029 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANASWAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Welfare be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total amount spent in the Rural Development firkas of Ongole taluk for the year 1952–53; and